



SGFMC Action for Justice News

This is a limited compilation of **CURRENT** opportunities for action. **Additional suggestions are welcomed at:** marynpaul@comcast.net We will make every effort to share them as quickly as possible.

"Thus says the Lord GOD: Cry out full-throated and unsparingly, lift up your voice like a trumpet blast." -Isaiah 58: 1

Week of September 21, 2025



Sunday 9/21/25



SUN DAY

47th Annual UN Day of Peace

PEACEMAKERS:

****Monthly Prayer Vigil to End Gun Violence – Saturday, September 27th, following the 5PM Mass – in the North transept of ST. EDMUND CHURCH, 188 S. Oak Park ****

**** Monthly TAIZE Prayer for Peace – Friday, October 3rd -7:30PM at Ascension Church, 808 S. East Ave****



47th Anniversary of Peace Day Chicago - Monday, September 22, 2025. 11:30 am -

1:00 pm. -Daley Plaza - 50 West Washington Street, Chicago. -Free! All welcome!

Come early to visit community and cultural resource tables.

- World Peace Flag Ceremony and Interactive Call to Peace
- Live world music and cultural performances
- One Minute of Silence for World Peace
- Remarks on peace by local leaders
- Peacebuilding, cultural and community organizations on hand for networking

<https://www.peaceschool.org/peace-day>



**FAITHFUL
AMERICA**

Love thy neighbor.
No exceptions.

Tell the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops:

Join Pope Leo and demand an end to the "pandemic of arms". *The USCCB has not spoken up to end violence in our society since the Sandy Hook Elementary mass shooting in 2012.*

<https://act.faithfulamerica.org/sign/usccb-gun-violence-2025/?t=>



Tell Congress to pass the SAVING OUR VETERANS'S LIVES Act of 2025 (HR.1987 - S.926)

"From 2003 to 2022, more than **87,000** veterans died by gun suicide. Every single day, 13 veterans die by gun suicide... The bipartisan *Saving Our Veterans' Lives Act* would require the VA to offer gun lock boxes and secure storage information to veterans who request them. Providing free gun lock boxes is a simple and meaningful way to help prevent firearm-related injuries and deaths." [https://act.everytown.org/sign/Save-](https://act.everytown.org/sign/Save-Vets/?akid=315111.5417268.ggFTPF&rd=1&refcode=emne)

[Vets/?akid=315111.5417268.ggFTPF&rd=1&refcode=emne](https://act.everytown.org/sign/Save-Vets/?akid=315111.5417268.ggFTPF&rd=1&refcode=emne)

(September is National Suicide Prevention Month- CALL 988 24/7)

TAKE ACTION:



SATURDAY 9/20 – 5PM – 6:30pm (Virtual) Midwest Collaboration Zoom Phone Bank for Abigail Spanberger for Virginia Governor

https://www.mobilize.us/indivisibleil/event/834474/?followup_modal_context=organization_newsletter_custom_recommendations



Solidarity in Action Training Series

- [Creating Mutual Aid/Community Response Teams \(Part 2\), with Stephanie Rearick](#) -- September 29 at 7:00 pm ET/4pm PT
- [Understanding Systemic Oppression and Privilege, with Tim Wise](#) -- October 21 at 7:00 pm ET/4pm PT

https://www.mobilize.us/indivisible/event/807964/?utm_source=email&utm_medium=20250808

the Neighborhood



Become an Advocate at The Neighborhood Bridge!

We are recruiting volunteers to serve as Advocates - trained companions who walk alongside families as they navigate services and pursue their goals. This unique role provides meaningful one-on-one support and connection.

To learn more, we invite you to attend our next Bridge Breakfast on October 4 at 8:30 AM in the Tutoring Center at Maguire Hall. Learn more at theneighborhoodbridge.org or contact Jeanne Gallo at jeanne.gallo@theneighb.org.



Help turn out Californians in this year's election with a letter writing campaign

"In just seven weeks, California voters will decide whether to pass Proposition 50, also known as the "Election Rigging Response Act," to allow the legislature to redraw the state's congressional districts ahead of the midterm election next year...The outcome of the vote on this measure could help determine which party controls the U.S. House after the 2026 midterms." **SIGN UP & LEARN HOW TO ADOPT CALIFORNIA VOTERS HERE:**

https://votefwd.org/district/CA_2025_C4_PROP50_LBW?utm_medium=email&utm_source=klaviyo&utm_campaign

FOOD and SHELTER:



Current Location: Boulevard Presbyterian Church, 607 Harvard Street. Donations are always welcome! Please consider picking up a few things next time you go shopping or if you are in need, take what you wish!

Monetary gifts can be sent to [this link](#). Please denote community fridge on memo!

<https://www.communityofcongregations.org/give/>



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for the new 40-bed emergency overnight shelter (112 S. Humphrey)

- **Dinner Providers** - Prepare hot dinner meal for 40 to be dropped off by 7:00 PM. Dinner providers can also volunteer for evening hosting if they want to stay and serve.
- **Breakfast Providers** - Donate breakfast supplies for 40 (cereal, fruit, juice, yogurt, etc.).
- **Lunch Providers** - Donate bagged lunches for 40 (sandwiches, chips, fruit, cookies, etc.) for guests to take with them when leaving the shelter the next day.

- **Evening Hosting - 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM (shift can be split)** - Interact with guests, set up, and clean up.
- **Morning Hosting - 6:00 AM to 8:00 AM** - Assist with breakfast and clean-up.

Contact Cherrell Jackson at cjackson@housingforward.org or via phone at (708) 338-1724 ext. 201

Help stock the shelter - Emergency Shelter House2Home List:

<https://www.amazon.com/registries/gl/quest-view/1BWAPIGR7ICM3>

GIVE HERE: <https://www.givecentral.org/customizable-online-giving/444/event/36148>



****IMPORTANT UPDATES FROM THE MIGRANT MINISTRY****

Until further notice, we will **pause donations on Monday, September 15**. Immigration and ESL will move across the street to Murphy Hall, and we are still seeking a location for the "free stores."

WE ARE NOW COLLECTING WINTER CLOTHING. HERE is our updated AMAZON WISH LIST.

<https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3VKSYQWISEBOM>

To donate online through **GiveCentral** use this link: <https://www.givecentral.org/customizable-online-giving/444/event/36149> OR send donations to Saint Catherine-Saint Lucy and Saint Giles Parish, 1025 Columbian, Oak Park, IL 60302. Include a note that the donation is for the "Migrant Ministry".



SEPTEMBER IS
HUNGER ACTION
MONTH (H.A.M.)

Drop-Off hours at the Food Pantry: 848 Lake St., Oak Park, IL) 9am-4pm Monday-Tuesday & Thursday-Friday. <https://www.gobeyondhunger.org/donatefood>

****MOST NEEDED ITEMS****

Bagged White Rice	Canned Pineapples (in natural juice)
Canned Chicken	Gluten-Free Pasta
Canned Chicken Soup	Jelly (no glass)
Cheerios' Cereal (generic brand also)	Peanut Butter (small and medium size)
Canned Mixed Vegetables (low sodium)	Refried and Dry Beans (pinto and black)
Canned Peaches (in natural juice)	Tomato Paste
	Vegetable Oil (12 – 16 oz.)

Support our food rescue partners:



- Trader Joe's (483 N. Harlem, OP)
- Sugar Beet Food Co-op (812 Madison, OP)
- Jewel Osco (Any in Oak Park or River Forest)
- Aldi (Any local)
- Mario's Butcher (5817 W Madison St, Chicago)

VOLUNTEER: virtual orientation 9/25 (Zoom)

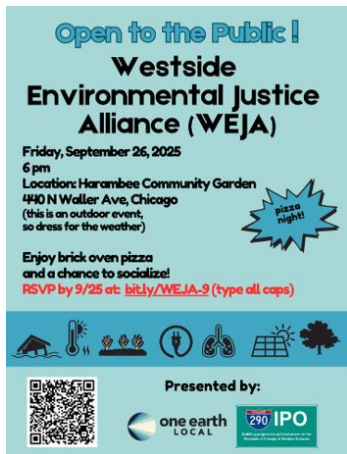
<https://www.gobeyondhunger.org/volunteer>

CREATION CARE:



Sunday, September 21 from 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM on zoom Learn all about community solar, how to pick a provider and sign up, and more at this free webinar! It's organized by Oak Park Climate Action Network on 9/21 in recognition of Sun Day, a national day of

celebration of the power of the sun. REGISTER HERE: https://opcan.org/updates/sept-21-3pm-solar-is-for-everyone?mc_cid=a141b949a8&mc_eid=a3bbbebe66



Westside Environmental Justice Alliance (WEJA) – Friday 9/26, 6PM – 440 N. Waller (Chicago) – come have pizza & meet this dedicated group! RSVP: bit.ly/WEJA-9



"Strong & Supported" - Annual Environment & Spirituality Summit – (on line)

Session 1: Rev. Randy Woodley - September 29 / 11:30 am CT

Session 2: Dr. Carolyn Finney - September 29 / 6:30 pm CT

Session 3: Lyanda Lynn Haupt - September 30 / 11:30 am CT

Keynote Speaker: Robin Wall Kimmerer ("Braiding Sweetgrass") - September 30 / 6:30 pm CT

**** NOTE: There will be a WATCH PARTY at UNITY TEMPLE, OAK PARK! ****

REGISTER HERE: <https://aes-summit.org/register-2025?emci=78d898d6-d476-f011-8dc9-6045bda9d96b&emdi>



SIERRA CLUB

ACT NOW! CLEAN ENERGY TAX CREDITS ARE EXPIRING SOON!

- EV Credits: Federal tax credits for eligible vehicles are available **through September 30, 2025**, with **up to \$7,500** for **new vehicles** and **\$4,000** for **used vehicles**.
- EV Charger Credit: Looking to install a home charger? Get up to **\$1,000** back on your taxes until **June 30, 2026**.
- Residential Clean Energy Credits: Claim **30% of the total cost** of solar panels, battery storage, and geothermal systems if you **buy by December 31, 2025**.
- Energy Efficient Home Upgrade Credits: Make home energy upgrades, like insulation, windows, or efficient electric appliances, by **December 31, 2025** to claim the credit.



NETWORK LOBBY FOR CATHOLIC SOCIAL JUSTICE

Tell Congress to say NO to the "PERMIT ACT" - H.R.3898 would:

- **Allow corporate polluters to dump toxic "forever chemicals" like PFAs into our rivers and lakes.**
- **Strip states and Tribal Nations of the power to protect their water resources.**
- **Fast-track projects that worsen flooding, destroy our wetlands, and make our communities more vulnerable.**
- **Exclude millions of acres of our streams and wetlands from federal protections.**

https://actionnetwork.org/letters/permit-act-action-alert?source=direct_link&link_id



SIERRA CLUB

URGENT! Stop the USDA from rescinding the 2001 "Roadless Area Conservation Rule" –

"National forests are the heart of our public lands. The Roadless Area Conservation Rule protects over 58 million

acres of some of the wildest forests we have left, forests that protect critical wildlife habitat and drinking water for millions. Revoking the Roadless Rule puts landscapes, wildlife, and communities at risk.” **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

ARE OPEN NOW:

<https://act.sierraclub.org/actions/National?actionId=AR0583872&id=701Po00001597VLIAY&data>

SAVE THESE DATES/SIGN UP NOW!

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO  **Immigration Ministry: BEING BRIDGES FRIENDSHIP AMID GRIEF AND ANGUISH, JOY AND HOPE – Thursday, Oct. 9, 2025 | 7 p.m. Assumption Parish, 4323 West Illinois Street, Chicago, IL 60654 – Presenter: Steven Millies, Ph.D. Professor of Public Theology and Director of The Bernardin Center at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago.**



Time
Saturday, October 18
11am – 1pm CDT

Location
Chicago Bulk Mail Facility
7500 Roosevelt Rd
Forest Park, IL 60130

COMING: Saturday, October 18th – “NO KINGS” – Forest Park

LINK: rally sites, training, resources: https://www.nokings.org/?SQF_SOURCE=indivisible#map



REGISTRATION IS OPEN for the FALL 2025 cohort on Whiteness & Anti-Racism,

designed for people who are white to deepen awareness of identity, privilege, positionally to power and more, then integrate learning into everyday life. It is important to attend all 4 sessions - they are designed to build upon one another.

Session 1 - Oct 19: 2pm-5pm - WHITENESS & SOCIALIZATION

Session 2 - Oct 26: 2pm-5pm - IDENTITY, PRIVILEGE & POWER

Session 3 - Nov 2: 2pm-5pm - SOLIDARITY & DISRUPTION

Session 4 - Nov 9: 2pm-5pm - SYSTEMS & MOVING FORWARD

https://raceconsciousdialogues.corsizio.com/event/6835e3e1d7f8deedee0d5eed?mc_cid=f6072b6322&mc_eid=a3bbbebe66

AND...

Mariyana T. Spyropoulos
Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County

SECOND CHANCE SUMMIT
EXPUNGEMENT, SEALING, AND RESOURCE FAIR

OCTOBER 11
8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Proviso Math and Science Academy
8601 Roosevelt Rd, Forest Park, IL 60130

SCAN TO REGISTER
Pre-registration is strongly encouraged.
Limited services may be provided for non-registrants as capacity allows.

RAP sheet(s) and/or Criminal History Record must be uploaded by September 26 to participate.
Get your Rap Sheet at Chicago Police Department Headquarters at (312) 746-6000
Filing and services fees may apply.

Visit Our Website
www.cookcountyclerkofcourt.org

Richard J. Daley Center | 50 W. Washington Street | Chicago, IL 60602 | (312) 603-5030

SECOND CHANCE SUMMIT: Expungement, Sealing, Resources Fair - Proviso Math & Science Academy – Oct. 11th – 8601 Roosevelt Rd. – Forest Park (Pre-registration strongly encouraged.) www.cookcountyclerkofcourt.org



NEXT STOP: WEST SIDE - Community Trade Fair

Friday, October 24, 9am-3pm

BUILD, 5100 W Harrison

WEST SIDE COMMUNITY TRADE FAIR – Friday, Oct. 24 – BUILD (5100 W

Harrison) – REGISTER HERE:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=hQuOggbXf02g1JqW7hc8NirKMiraSLBNIAiMukak>

Morning Session: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM (Registration opens at 9:45 AM)

Afternoon Session: 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM (Registration opens at 11:45 AM)

- ◇ **Explore job, training, and education opportunities**
- ◇ **Connect with community organizations and resources**
- ◇ **Meet employers and leaders making a difference**
- ◇ **Take free professional headshots**
- ◇ **Join career readiness workshops**
- ◇ **Enter to win raffles and giveaways**